

**Definition:** Absence or abnormal cessation of menstruation

**Classification:** a) Onset: -Primary -Secondary B) Cause: -Physiological -Pathological

**-Primary:** Menstruation never occurred before Incidence: 0.1%

(14 yrs without secondary sexual characters or 16 yrs with 2<sup>ary</sup> Sexual characters)

**-Secondary:** Menstruation cessation, after occurring, for 6 months or 3 consecutive cycles

**-Physiological:**

\***Before Puberty:** d.t. CNS suppress. → Low Gonadotrophic hormones → Low estrogen & progesterone

\***Pregnancy** → high estrogen & progesterone → suppression of gonadotrophic hormones

\***Lactating women** → d.t. high level of prolactin \***Postmenopausal** → d.t. exhaustion of follicles

**-Pathological:**

a) **False: (Cryptomenorrhea)** hidden menstruation d.t. outflow tract obstruction

**Causes:** I) **Congenital:** -Imperforate hymen -Transverse vaginal septum -Vaginal aplasia (agenesis)  
-Non-communicating horns -DES exposure (cause cervical atresia)

II) **Acquired:** (mostly iatrogenic) -Cervical polyp / fibroid

-Complication of (cauterization/Conization/Amputation) of cervical ulcer in Cervical Intraepithelial Neoplasia (CIN) -Stitching of anterior wall to posterior wall of lower uterine segment in cesarean section

**Symptoms:** 1-Primary amenorrhoea (2<sup>ary</sup> if acquired) 2-Pelvi-abdominal mass (خطر لأن الأهل يبيفكروها حامل)

3-Cyclic lower abdominal pain (misdiagnosed as appendicitis 4-Acute Urine retention

**Signs:** a) **General:** -Presence of 2<sup>ary</sup> sexual characters -Associated Anomalies (e.g. spine defects)

b) **Abdominal:** -Pelvi-abdominal mass (central, dull, cystic)

c) **Pelvic:** -Bulging bluish distended membrane (imperforate hymen) -Transverse Vaginal septum  
-Blind vaginal pouch (vaginal aplasia) -Probe stops at level of cervix (cervical stenosis)

d) **Per-rectal:** bimanual examination to determine if there is a uterus or not

**Investigations:**

1-Ultrasound: (hemt corpus) 2-IVP (Intravenous Pyelography): (for associated UT anomalies)

3-Laparoscopy: (for non-communicating horn)

**Treatment:** Surgical correction of obstruction under general anesthesia with complete aseptic conditions

\***Imperforate hymen:** Cruciate incision \***Transverse septum:** septum excision

\***Vaginal agenesis:** -Trial of communicating Uterus and vaginal dissection (**Mclndoe operation**)  
-If can't be done → Hysterectomy

b) **True:**

**Causes:** -Compartment I: Uterine -Compartment II: Ovarian -Compartment III: Pituitary  
-Compartment IV: Hypothalamus -General Causes

**Workup scheme for investigations of any case of amenorrhoea:**

Test	Positive	Negative
Pregnancy test	Pregnant	Continue..
Serum prolactin	High → Hyperprolactinemia	Low → Continue..
TSH	High → hyper / Low → hypothyroid.	Normal → Continue..
Progesterone challenge test	Menstruation → Anovulation	No Mens. → Continue..
Estrogen & Progest. Challenge test	No menstruation → Uterine defect	Mens. → Continue..
Serum FSH & LH	High → Ovarian cause	Normal → Continue..
LH-RH Test	Menstruation → Hypothalamic	No → Pituitary

\*\*Wait for the effect of progesterone 10-14 days

## Special Disorders in Compartment I:

### 1-Mullerian Duct Agenesis: (Mayer-Rokitansky-Küster-Hauser syndrome)

**Incidence:** 1/4000, the second most common cause of primary amenorrhea

**Pathophysiology & pathogenesis:** Lack of development of Mullerian duct

**Primary gonads:** Ovaries      **Secondary sexual characters:** present      **Absent Uterus/tubes/cervix**

**Symptoms & Presentation:**

1-Primary amenorrhea    2-Primary infertility    3-Dyspareunia / Aparaunia

4-Urethral incontinence (if intercourse occurs through it)

**Signs & Examination:**

a) **General:** -Present 2ary sexual characters

b) **Abdominal:** Pelvi-abdominal mass (in incomplete type) - Associated Kidney anomalies

c) **Pelvic:** Blind vaginal pouch

**Investigations:**

1-**Hormonal Assay:** (Estrogen & Progesterone challenge test) → No Menstruation, normal FSH & LH

2-**Laparoscopy & Ultrasound:** Absent uterus      3- **Karyotyping:** 46,xx ♀

**Treatment:**

**A) For Sexual intercourse:** Depend on depth of vaginal pouch: 5 cm → Progressive dilatation

Very Small → Vaginoplasty (William's Operation) - McIndoe operation

**B) For Infertility:** Third-party reproduction by a surrogate mother

### 2-Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome: (Testicular feminization syndrome)

-Male Pseudohermaphrodite (46,xy)      **Primary gonads:** Testis

**Pathogenesis:** due to androgen receptor defect so Androgen is converted into estrogen → ♀ Phenotype

**Presentation:** 1-Primary amenorrhea    2-Primary infertility    3-Dyspareunia / Aparaunia

**Examination:** a) **General:** -Very pretty female (double sources of estrogen)

-Breasts are only fat (no glands)    -No axillary or pubic hair

b) **Abdominal:** may be undescended testis or inguinal hernia    c) **Pelvic:** Blind vaginal pouch

D.D.	Axillary & Pubic hair	Associated anomalies	Undescended testis	Karyotyping	Hormones
M.D.A	Yes	Yes	No	46,XX	Normal
A.I.S.	No	No	May be	46,XY	↑Androgen (Estrogen)

**Treatment:** \*MUST GO with Sex of Rearing جنس التنشئة

1-**Gonadectomy** (Prevent malignancies as germinal cell carcinoma) after skeletal maturity (to avoid premature closure of epiphysis)    then    2-**Hormonal replacement Therapy** (Estrogen)

### 3-Asherman's Syndrome:

40% of cases of secondary amenorrhea /Secondary infertility

**Pathogenesis:**

Intrauterine Synechiae (adhesions) due to trauma and **INFECTIONS** after gyne/obs procedure

e.g. D&C (Dilatation and Curettage) - Cesarean section - Uteroplasty

**Level:** Cervical - Isthmical - Intrauterine

**Histological:** Fibrinous - Cartilaginous - Osseous

**Presentation:** 1-**Menstual disturbances** (amenorrhea, hypomenorrhea)    2-**Infertility**

3-**Obstetric complications:** (recurrent pregnancy loss - preterm labour - placenta previa)

**Diagnosis and Treatment:** Hysteroscopy and Lysis of adhesions

**Bad Prognosis:** 30% only pregnancy can occur

